

APPROVED: Meeting No. 43-82

ATTEST: *Helen M. Henezhan*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
MEETING NO. 41-82

November 8, 1982

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in general session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, November 8, 1982, at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor John R. Freeland

Councilman Steve Abrams

Councilwoman Viola Hovsepien

Councilman Douglas Duncan

Councilman John Tyner, II

The Mayor in the Chair.

Present: City Manager Larry Blick; Assistant City Attorney Sondra Harans Block; Secretary Pat Rager.

Re: City Manager's Report

Mr. Blick reported the following:

1. Tomorrow at 4 p.m. there will be a joint signing of the County/City Police Agreement by Chief Crooke and Chief Stout.
2. A productive meeting was held on Wednesday with Montgomery County regarding the Maryvale School. A deed will be executed and the building will be razed after the signing. The City is not in a position to discuss item number 15 on the agenda tonight.
3. On Wednesday, City Managers and Mayors from Maryland will be meeting here at City Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Mayor and Council are invited to attend if they wish.

Re: Award of Certificate of Appreciation - Murray Warner

Mayor Freeland presented to Murray Warner a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Mayor for his service to the City and its citizens for the many hours he has devoted to serving on the Alternative Community Service Commission. The Mayor thanked him for his work and wished him luck in Atlanta.

Re: Proclamation: Chamber of
Commerce Week - November
8-13, 1982.

Proclamation No. 9-82

There being no objection from the Council, Mayor Freeland proceeded to issue Proclamation No. 9-82, proclaiming the week of November 8-13, 1982, as Chamber of Commerce Week. Councilwoman Hovsepian read the proclamation at the request of the Mayor in which it was urged that all citizens join in this tribute to the Chamber for its many contributions to the community. Mrs. Bernice Grossman, Executive Director, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

Re: Proclamation: Driving
Awareness Month - December

Proclamation No. 10-82

There being no objection from the Council, Mayor Freeland proceeded to issue Proclamation No. 10-82, proclaiming the month of December as Driving Awareness Month and urged all citizens to refrain from driving when their awareness may be impaired and to pass this message on to family and friends so that human suffering brought about by drug related accidents may be alleviated. Councilman Duncan read the proclamation at the request of the Mayor.

Mayor Freeland asked that this Proclamation be passed on to the initiator. Councilman Duncan reminded the Council that the City is assisting the County in their Call a Cab program.

Re: Appointment

Mayor Freeland made the following appointment. It was confirmed by the Council:

Friends of the Arts Task Force: Gene Morrill
2602 Jennings Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

Re: Citizen's Forum

The Mayor opened the meeting to those citizens who wished to address the Mayor and Council:

1. Reverend Kaseman, United Church Ministries. Rev. Kaseman thanked the Council for the opportunity to participate in the forum held last week on human needs. He has returned, at the request of the Council, with his assistant Adrienne Carr, Richard Anderson, Helayne Baker, and Daryl, a former resident of the shelter. They are here to answer the Mayor and Council's questions.

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Mr. Anderson addressed the Council and informed them of the history of the Shelter and of the need in this area for a Shelter. He said in the last two years over 500 requests have been made for emergency shelter but unfortunately only half of them could be provided for. A large number of requests come from evictions. It seems a growing number of people are coming in from surrounding areas and other states in hopes of finding a job. He is also seeing a number of people coming in due to family conflicts. The Gaithersburg Shelter opened two years ago. They would like to come to Rockville because of the good location. It is very accessible to public transportation and jobs. Mr. Anderson also emphasized that the Shelter provides counseling and guidance, not just a roof over head. He explained the process when a person comes to the Shelter and how they are interviewed and asked to form a plan of action. They are asked to leave if they do not follow their course of action.

To date, the shelter has been able to establish a network of contacts. It is presently renting a four bedroom house in the Twinbrook area which is filled most of the time because of its limited facilities.

Daryl, a former resident of the Shelter, addressed the Mayor and Council and told of his experience with them. He told of how the shelter helped him and his family get back on their feet. He is now relocated and is living back in the Twinbrook area.

Mr. Anderson said he would like to present to the Mayor and Council a proposal asking for funding to assist in the purchase of a larger facility, an eight bedroom house close to transportation off of Route 28. It is for sale now and has all the characteristics that the Shelter is looking for. It is at a bargain price. The Shelter is asking help from Rockville, Montgomery County and funds from the community, individuals and other groups. It needs to raise \$116,400. He is asking for a \$42,000 grant from the City to put toward the purchase of the house and towards the salary of a full-time resident director. If the Mayor and Council agree to provide \$50,000 in a grant at a low interest loan, the Shelter will raise the rest of the money on its own or from a loan. He asked that the Mayor and Council aim to raise the Shelter's funds in order to increase the Shelter's ability to serve more requests and have the director become full time.

Mayor Freeland said he appreciates the information presented tonight and the proposal will need to be looked at in detail. He asked that it be left with

the City Manager and he will get back to the Council with a report. He mentioned that the mid-year review is coming up and that will be a good time to do something. Councilman Tyner asked if this new 8 bedroom house is in the West End. Mr. Anderson said it is near 270 and Rt. 28. Councilman Tyner asked if the Twinbrook house will remain open. Mr. Anderson said it will close. Councilwoman Hovsepian mentioned that she sat in on a meeting with Helayne. It would be nice to have two or three such houses in the City but it is not affordable to have staff at that many locations and that is the reason for consolidating into one house.

2. Howard Silberstein, 2008 Dundee Road. Mr. Silberstein asked that the Mayor and Council look at using funds from the Emergency Assistance Program. He does not think there is any provision in the contract from providing them with funds. Councilman Tyner said the contract with the United Community Ministries specifies for small, emergency type loans.

Mayor Freeland said all aspects will be looked at.

Re: Public Hearing: Special Assessment Project for reconstruction of South Stonestreet Avenue - Baltimore Road to Veirs Mill Road ramp.

The Mayor and Council conducted a public hearing on a special assessment for the construction of South Stonestreet Avenue, Baltimore Road to Veirs Mill Road ramp, and heard those persons as will be found in the official stenographic transcript of the hearing. There being no other person wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the hearing with the record to be held open for 30 days.

Re: Public Hearing: Proposed Ordinance to add a new section to the Laws of Rockville to require certain contracts for sale of real property to notify purchasers of levied or estimated special assessments.

The Mayor and Council conducted a public hearing on a proposed ordinance adding a new section to the Laws of Rockville requiring certain contracts for sale of real property to notify purchasers of levied or estimated special assessments, and heard those persons as will be found in the official stenographic transcript of the hearing. The Mayor declared that the hearing remain

open and continued for another date in January allowing for written statements and more notification of the hearing.

(At this time, Councilman Abrams stepped out of the meeting.)

Re: Board of Appeals - Annual Report

The Mayor and Council welcomed the Board of Appeals. Mr. Arkin, Chairman of the Board, introduced the members: Mr. Peter Hartogensis, Mrs. Karen Lechter and Mr. Patrick Woodward. Mr. Arkin asked the Mayor and Council for clarification on Mr. Woodward's appointment. The Board members were under the impression that he was to fill the vacancy created by Terry Donaldson which would be a full voting member, but there seems to be some confusion as to this. Mayor Freeland asked that the City Clerk come back with clarification on this matter.

(At this time, Councilman Abrams returned to the meeting.)

Mr. Arkin reported that the Board of Appeals has reviewed 26 applications from January-October, 1982. There were 21 Appeals Application reviewed, and five Special Exceptions.

	Reviewed	Approved	Denied	Continued
Special Exception	5	5	--	--
Appeals	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	26	22	3	1

Special Exceptions:	Public Use - 2	Appeals:	Garage/Carport - 3
	Warehouse - 1		Commercial/Indus. Bld. - 3
	Eleemosynary Inst. - 1		Height - 1
	Bank - 1		House - 1
			House Add. - 7
			Fence - 3
			Signs - 2
			Gazebo - 1

Mr. Arkin noted problems that the Board has come across since last year. One that was dealt with just this past weekend is the use of solar energy. He asked that some consideration be given to people wanting to use solar energy since it is a national policy to conserve energy. He suggested that the Energy Commission look into this possibility. He also asked that the placement of antennas be looked at and reviewed now that cable, HBO, etc., is becoming popular in the City. Mr. Arkin reiterated the Board's previous request of changing the sign posting requirement for property that abuts a road that is not yet used as

a thru road. This request was made last year, but no action has been taken. It has been brought to the Boards attention that there is a possibility of their handling landlord/tenant cases and they would like the opportunity to discuss this idea. Mr. Arkin asked the Mayor and Council for help on clarifying the Board's jurisdiction over signs. It has pending before them now a Variance requesting a second sign. The Board has listened to oral arguments and has reviewed briefs from the City Attorney's office and the Applicant's attorneys, but the Board is not sure of their authority. And lastly, Mr. Arkin suggested that a booklet be prepared explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Board. It could be distributed to the citizens because there are many citizens who do not know the duties of the Board and the steps involved in the granting of a variance.

Mayor Freeland asked who on the staff Mr. Arkin felt would be appropriate to handle such a booklet. Mr. Arkin suggested that Mrs. Patterson and the Board work together. Mayor Freeland asked that the Board get together and come up with some ideas. Mr. Arkin suggested more articles in the Newsletter and noted that the Board's actions are now being reported in the Gaithersburg Gazette.

Mr. Peter Hartogensis addressed the Council and said there is definitely a need in the City for changes in the sign requirements and there ought to be provision for review of cases. He asked that the Mayor and Council not defer this item too much longer.

Mr. Patrick Woodward said he looks forward to working on the Board and thanked the Council for his appointment.

Mrs. Karen Lechter commended the staff who put in very hard and long hours and who are very dedicated. She informed the Mayor and Council that at their next meeting they will take action on a variance pending for an additional sign. If the Mayor and Council give them no interpretation or inform them of their jurisdiction in this matter, the Board will have to vote on their interpretation of the law.

Mayor Freeland told the Board that addressing the sign ordinance is on the Mayor and Council's priority list of things to do. They plan on acting on the sign ordinance in January 1984. He said the Mayor and Council recognize the understood policy and do not plan to act on any type of waivers on signs. He asked that the Board bear with the Mayor and Council for they will be looking at the issue. Mr. Arkin said he hopes the comprehensive report will take care of the Board's request for he feels this particular area is an area of great

urgency. The Board, if not directed, will have to make an independent judgment as they personally understand it and they would not like to see different bodies of the City in disagreement. He feels it would be in the best interest of the City if a resolution could be worked out and he would be glad to help with the language. Mayor Freeland said he wants to have the benefit of all Boards and Commissions participating on this particular issue. He asked the Board to wait and get together with the City Attorney and staff so as to come to some sort of agreement. The Mayor and Council will start building a policy and mechanisms. He does not want to change the charter or authority. He promised that there will be an answer for the Board. Mr. Arkin said the Board will help implement a plan on this issue. Councilman Tyner said it is the purview of the Planning Commission to issue signs and not for the Board of Appeals. He does agree that there is a need for a working document.

Councilman Duncan asked Mr. Arkin if he is receptive to the Board's handling landlord/tenant affairs. Mr. Arkin explained that the County has a staff to investigate complaints and that the City has no staff. Councilman Duncan stated that staff would be worked out and again asked if they would be willing to handle it. Mr. Arkin said the Board has taken no position and would be receptive to discussing this. Councilwoman Hovsepian asked if the Council is willing to direct the solar energy question to the Energy Commission. Mayor Freeland said yes and that it has been discussed but get something more definitive.

Mayor Freeland thanked the Board of Appeal members for their report and said that the Council plans to spend time working out the sign ordinance problem.

(At this time Councilman Abrams stepped out of the meeting.)

Re: Resolution: To Establish
Sister City Task Force

Resolution No. 31-82

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, Resolution No. 31-82, establishing a Sister City Task Force, the full text of which can be found in Resolution Book No. 7 of the Mayor and Council, was adopted. Councilwoman Hovsepian read the scope of the task force for the benefit of the audience and questioned if it was really necessary for the Task Force to report once a month to the Mayor and Council. It was suggested that it could be done in writing. Councilman Tyner suggested that the resolution be translated into German and prepared for transmittal to Pinneberg.

Re: Resolution: To Establish
City of Rockville Advisory
Commission on Public
Education

Resolution No. 32-82

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, Resolution No. 32-82, to establish City of Rockville Advisory Commission on Public Education, the full text of which can be found in Resolution Book No. 7 of the Mayor and Council, was adopted.

Councilman Tyner noted the memo given to the Council by the City Manager on staff assistance to the Commission. It was decided that this subject would be discussed when appointments are made.

Re: Award of Contract:
Acquisition of computer
terminals and equipment

During the update on the computer system last month, it was indicated that approval would be requested soon for a second increment of computer equipment. The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend the acquisition of terminals and associated equipment as outlined below:

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Terminals for Payroll Division	3	\$2,375.45	\$ 7,126.35
2. Terminals for Revenue Division	2	1,821.05	3,642.10
3. Terminals for Accounting Division	2	1,821.05	3,642.10
4. Terminals/Word Processing Units for Personnel, Police, Parks and Recreation, Public Information, Public Works, and Information Systems	6	3,676.51	22,059.06
5. Asynchronous Data Communications Controllers, Cables and Misc. Equipment for Terminals			7,382.71

It is recommended that this equipment be acquired from Hewlett-Packard and financed by a tax exempt lease-purchase agreement.

The budget for this equipment is within the 5-year projections approved by the Mayor and Council in August 1981. The differences between this acquisition and the 5-year projection are as follows:

	<u>Original Projection</u>		<u>Actual and Proposed Acquisition</u>	
	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
Terminals	16	8	13	7

Five fewer terminals are proposed than originally anticipated for the first two years. We are not ordering terminals until they are actually needed for specific applications. Funds for this acquisition were included in the FY 1983 operating budget.

The prices offered for this equipment are the prices contained in Hewlett-Packard's contract with the University of Maryland, Contract No. CA 642. These prices are offered to all state and local governments in Maryland and represent a 23 percent discount from list prices. Staff has confirmed, by independent checking, that lower prices for this equipment are not available.

Printers are not included in this recommendation because it is not necessary to buy Hewlett-Packard printers. High quality printers can be obtained from several manufacturers. A request for bids for letter-quality printers to be used with the terminal/word processing units will be issued soon.

A separate request for bids will be issued to obtain tax exempt municipal lease financing for the terminals and for the upcoming order for printers. Under this method of financing, the interest income on the lease is tax exempt to the lessor, allowing a lower interest rate and lower lease cost. The City's existing computer equipment is financed in this manner.

It is recommended that an award be made to Hewlett-Packard for \$43,852.32 for computer terminals and associated equipment under University of Maryland Contract CA 642. It is also recommended that a separate request for bids be authorized for financing for these terminals and for the upcoming order for printers.

(Councilman Abrams returned to the meeting.)

Mr. Blick explained that this contract is a follow up to the work session held a few weeks ago. He explained how staff uses the computer system and how it enables staff to stay at their desk. It has come to his attention that the City Clerk's office is in need of one. The Council agreed to this, therefore the figures were changed from 6 to 7 units purchased, making the total price for item number 4 \$25,735.57 and the grand total of the

contract - \$47,528.83. The Actual and Proposed Acquisition chart for Year 1 and 2 is also changed to 12 and 8 respectively.

Councilwoman Hovsepian said she sees no other choice than to go with the staff's recommendation. Councilwoman Hovsepian moved, duly seconded, that the contract for the purchase of computer terminals and associated equipment under the University of Maryland Bid CA 642 be awarded to Hewlett-Packard in the amount of \$47,528.83.

Councilman Tyner asked the Director of Finance if these were strictly CRTs or word processors and how many printers will be needed. Mr. Lawton said these are strictly CRTs with word processing capabilities and that the City will be purchasing seven small letter-quality printers for the word processing. These printers will be obtained under a separate request because it takes less time to get the printers. Councilman Duncan asked if other terminals were compatible with the Hewlett-Packard system. Mr. Lawton said there is only one other system that would fit the present system and that is more expensive than the Hewlett-Packard. Councilman Duncan asked if a printer was needed for each word processor. Mr. Lawton said yes. Councilman Tyner said he would like another update on the Hewlett-Packard System and would like to see the costs tracked.

(Councilman Abrams left the meeting.)

Mr. Lawton said with the approval of this contract, staff will return with the bid on the lease package. He will also present an economical update on the system. He explained to the Council the financial savings of this lease package and answered the Council's questions.

The Council, by unanimous vote of all present, approved this contract.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance:
To levy assessment for
paving and drainage of
Dover Road, Horners Lane
to Gude Drive - #080212

On motion of Councilwoman Hovsepian, there was introduced upon the table an ordinance to levy assessment for the paving and drainage of Dover Road, Horners Lane to Gude Drive, said ordinance to lay over one week before final action is taken.

Re: Authorization to apply for \$2,500 grant to obtain a pavement marking removal machine

The Traffic Engineer has found an opportunity for the City to obtain a 100 percent grant to buy a pavement marking removal machine for \$2,500. This machine would permit the City to remove obsolete or residual lines or markings in a timely manner and would reduce the costs for such removal from approximately \$1 per foot to less than 10¢ per foot.

Other than preparing a simple application and reporting after one year what the City has done with the machine, there are no other administrative requirements or obligations on the part of the City.

It is recommended that the Mayor and Council authorize the filing of an application to secure grant funds to obtain a pavement marking removal machine.

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that this is another example of how well staff does their work. She read the memo for the benefit of those in the audience.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, staff was authorized to file the application.

Re: Waiver of Fee for Special Exception Application for Montgomery County Historical Society to hold Christmas Shop at Beall/Dawson House

The Planning Department has been approached by Mrs. Karras and Ms. Wimsatt inquiring if they may locate the Society's Christmas shop in the house on a year-round basis. They were told that they would be advised to obtain a Special Exception from the Board of Appeals on the basis that the Society is an eleemosynary or philanthropic institution. This would allow the Society to continue a variety of fund raising events, which they do now, as well as the Christmas Shop in full compliance with the Zoning and Planning Ordinance.

The Community Development and Housing Assistance Department has been contacted in regards to the lease agreement between the City and the Society and there is no restriction on the the Society conducting fund raising activities of the type requested.

Since the filing fee for the Special Exception is \$400, it is recommended that the Mayor and Council authorize the staff to file on its behalf, the Special Exception Application so that this matter may be resolved as quickly as possible.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the staff was instructed to file the Special Exception application.

(Councilman Abrams returned to the meeting.)

Re: Adoption of Ordinance:
To Levy Assessment for
Paving and Drainage -
Seven Locks Road -
Ritchie Parkway to Fortune
Terrace - #080412

Ordinance No. 35-82

Councilwoman Hovsepian commented on how this is not a very long stretch of road but it costs \$1,147,297.37 and it is being assessed against three different parcels. Mr. Butchart explained that Parcel 'B' is owned by Montgomery County, Lot 24, Block A is the property recently annexed into the City and Lot 1, Block E is the shopping center.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Ordinance No. 35-82, to levy assessment for paving and drainage - Seven Locks Road - Ritchie Parkway to Fortune Terrace, the full text of which can be found in Ordinance Book No. 11 of the Mayor and Council, was adopted.

Re: Work Session: Problems
with the present Sign
Ordinance and discussion
of alternative courses of
action

Mayor Freeland apologized to the staff for deferring this action. Mr. Davis, Director of Planning, briefed the Council on staff's work on the sign ordinance to date and hopes that a clear set of instructions will be issued to the staff tonight. He told the Mayor and Council that there are 4 options available - Option 1 Do Nothing; Option 2 Patch-Up existing Ordinance; Option 3 Systematically approach the ordinance on a zoning category; and Option 4 Develop a totally new ordinance. Mr. Davis suggested that the Mayor and Council consider combining Option 3 and 4. The new ordinance could be divided up between several interest groups such as the Economics of Amenities,

neighborhood groups, Chamber of Commerce, I-270 employers, etc. They could concentrate on those sections most closely related to them. Mr. Larry Owens Chief Planner, presented a report with the help of slides to show the Mayor and Council problems now existing in Rockville. He told of the lack of awareness of the sign code in the City, the many illegal signs and the difficulty of enforcement, the lack of an appeals process, portable signs, electronic message signs, administrative process, historic district area, gas price signs, neighborhood shopping center signs, free standing identification signs in the O-2 zone, general industrial use, temporary real estate signs, directional signs, grand opening signs, window signs, etc. He noted that these problems were identified two years ago and rather than take piecemeal applications, the staff has prepared the proposed draft of the sign ordinance. It is ready for public hearing but has not had any public review, just the Planning Commission's. Mr. Owens then proceeded to highlight significant changes in the proposed ordinance - more attention to the definitions, prohibited signs listed, signs that are exempted, non-permit signs, measurement of height and site and issuance of sign permit prior to issuance of occupancy permit. Mr. Owens briefly reported on what has been done or taken place in respect to the sign ordinance: amended the free standing requirement in the C-1 Zone, amended the Municipal Infractions portion of the Zoning Ordinance, and adopted the political sign regulations so as to conform with the County and the City of Gaithersburg. Mr. Davis added that staff has done alot of work. Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that this has received strictly staff involvement and no group input and she agrees with splitting it up and giving it to separate interaction groups. Councilman Abrams asked if billboards are addressed in the report. Mr. Davis said the City does not permit them and there are none in the City. It is addressed in the proposed preliminary plan and it is not allowed. Councilman Tyner commented that the Town Center Implementation Strategy 10 Sign Report solicited input from different people. but this report does not address the subject of variances at all. He asked what is enforceable from an inspectors point of view in terms of the Municipal Infractions ordinance. He said he is prepared to instruct the staff to set a timetable and to include and update the portion in the Town Center Implementation Strategy Report in regards to the variance as an appeal process. Mr. Davis

suggested that this could take form not only as a variance but as an optional method. Councilman Abrams said he is opposed to this and Councilwoman Hovsepian agreed with him.

Mayor Freeland said the staff should proceed on and have it finished in 13 months. This time frame fits into the Mayor and Council's priority process set up last week. He would like to target the completion for 12 months but will allow one month for slippage. He said any interested party in this is invited to comment and there should be a new ordinance by the beginning of 1984.

Re: Correspondence

The Mayor and Council noted the following items of correspondence:

1. Peter Conlon, re compliments to City employee
2. B. Nickerson, resignation from Humanities Commission

Councilman Tyner said the appointment process is the reason for this resignation. He said the Chairman was not aware of her expiration and was not informed that a change in command had taken place. He said the previous chairman should be informed and asked that the process be improved.

3. Crossway Community, re reuse of Hungerford Park School

Councilman Duncan said he would like to have more information on Crossway Community. Councilwoman Hovsepian asked if this has been pursued at all. Mayor Freeland said the staff is tracking it and when action is needed it will be acted on. Councilman Abrams explained that it will be a re-entry facility to provide temporary housing for those separated by domestic problems. It will have a day care and living facilities. Debra Poretsky Ekman, President of Crossways, has been trying to put together a proposal. Councilman Tyner noted that the Special Olympics are going to soon request the use of Hungerford School as well as the County. Councilman Duncan said he would still like to have more information. Councilwoman Hovsepian said it was her understanding that they are to use the school and also to build additional housing, basically for female, single parents and to give counseling, daycare and housing for up to two years. Councilman Duncan said the letter should be acknowledged that it was received and that we will pass it on to the appropriate people. Councilman Abrams agreed, however, let them know that there may be some actions along the way that might prevent them from using the facility. It was noted that Crossways has been talking to members of the Hungerford/Stoneridge Civic Assoc.

4. J. Rupert Picott, request for proclamation

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that this is a request for a proclamation to observe National Afro-American History Month, February, 1983. She asked if this had been done before. Mayor Freeland and Councilman Tyner said they could not remember doing so. Mr. Blick explained that the Clerk handles proclamations and explained that the policy of the City is to support local groups and not national groups. But, if there is a chapter located in Rockville or if a citizen is a member of the organization it may be done. Mr. Blick said he would have the Clerk check this out.

Re: Information Items

1. First quarter expenditure report
2. Memo from Police re Trucks on N. Horners Lane
3. Memo re Wage garnishment

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that it is interesting that the City provides a way for employees to deduct child support from their earnings.

4. Copy of letter re Community Resources program

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted this letter commending Mr. Bert Drayton, Director of Community Resources. She read the letter out loud for the benefit of those in the audience.

5. Letter responding to neighborhood problems

Councilman Tyner said he would like to compliment Bob Goodin, Director of Public Works, for the tone of his letters. He does an excellent job of writing letters about difficult subjects. He asked that the City Manager pass on his comments to him.

6. Project report from City Manager's office
7. Memo re leaf collection on private property
8. Memo on Mazza Gallery remodeling
9. Letter to SHA re Jefferson/Van Buren

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted this letter and said she hopes the job gets done soon because this is a very dangerous situation.

10. Memo from Police Department re homicide
11. Copy of letter from Congressman Barnes

Councilwoman Hovsepian noted this letter to the City Clerk from Congressman Barnes regarding the City's nuclear arms freeze resolution.

Re: Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the Minutes of Meeting No. 38-82, October 18, 1982, were approved as amended.

Re: New Business

1. Councilman Abrams noted that Peoples Drug store was able to get into the old Drug Fair location within 48 hours and they should have something from the City commending them for this. Councilwoman Hovsepian noted that the Twinbrook Citizens Association got volunteers to drive people to Aspen Hill for their prescriptions.

Re: Citizens Forum

2. Howard Silberstein, 2008 Dundee Road. Mr. Silberstein noted that there are more incidents of religious animosity. A year ago he returned from a conference held in Baltimore on hate and violence. He attended as a member of the Human Rights Commission. To date, the City has not responded adequately as a City to leading the way in informing the citizens that this will not be tolerated. He noted the incident that took place at a Silver Spring synagogue. He said he would appreciate it if the Mayor and Council would come out with a proclamation and a program on what it means to have unity in the City. He also proposed that a task force be established to look at the current City laws and personnel so as to ensure the City is living up to its Human Relations bargain. Councilman Abrams said he was disturbed by the news reports that the Klu Klux Klan rally was being held in Rockville when it was not. It was held in Montgomery County. He said he does not know what the City's policy would have been but he hoped that it would not have permitted it. He said someone should point out that it was not held in Rockville. Councilwoman Hovsepian said she does not want to see any of this in Rockville and would like to see this matter pursued. Mayor Freeland said he would take Mr. Silberstein's comments under advisement.

Re: Executive Session

On motion of Councilman Abrams, duly seconded, and unanimously passed, the meeting was closed for executive session to discuss litigation.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council in executive session, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 a.m. to convene again in general session on Monday, November 22, 1982, at 8:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.